**Sample Event Description for the Biotechnology History Timeline Assignment:**

[Genetically modified (GM) foods](http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/917237/genetically-modified-food) were first approved for human consumption in the [United States](http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/616563/United-States) in 1995. Genetically modified crops / organisms have their DNA altered so that they express genes of interest. For example, carrots have been genetically modified to express more of the beta carotene gene, which codes for the production of an essential nutrient. With more beta carotene, the carrot appears orange.